

Agency farmer, in charge of the district, estimated the number at about 800, and Bishop Brinkerhoff, of the Mormon Church of Tuba City, who has been in that section of country for the past thirteen years and quite familiar with the number of Indians frequenting the district, says that there are usually from 750 to 800 Indians ranging herds west of the reservation, but that sometimes there are 1,000 to 1,200. It is therefore probable that the number of Indians in the territory referred to will approximate about 1,000.

There are 20 Mormon families at Tuba City and vicinity, who are the only white settlers in the tract of country recommended as an extension to the reservation by Constant Williams, U. S. A., formerly acting Indian agent of the Navajo Agency, in his letter to the Indian Office dated May 7, 1898, except two Indian traders and two missionaries under the auspices of the Gospel Union, of Kansas City, Mo. One of said traders, Mr. C. H. Algert, is located at Tuba City, and the other, Mr. S. S. Preston, is located at Willow Springs, 10 miles west of Tuba City. The two missionaries referred to, Mr. D. E. Brown and Mr. Fred Allen, reside at Moen Aya, about midway between Tuba City and Willow Springs, and occupy a building which they have rented from a man named Herman Lyond, who left the neighborhood in May, 1898, at the time he rented his house and farm to said missionaries for a term of two years, at a rental of \$25 for the first year and \$50 for the second year.

I visited all of said settlers and traders, who are all squatters upon unsurveyed Government lands, but surveys were being made embracing their claims while I was in the neighborhood. I examined their improvements very carefully, anticipating an extension of the lines of Navajo Reservation, and in order that the same might be facilitated I obtained from the said 20 Mormons a written agreement, wherein they each agree to accept a certain sum for their respective improvements and to vacate their locations upon payment to them by the Government of the stipulated amounts, aggregating \$45,000. The said agreement is transmitted herewith, marked "Exhibit No. 21," and the amounts extended are based upon the respective schedules which are also transmitted herewith, numbered from 1 to 20, inclusive, and tabulated in said agreement.

The said agreement expires July 1, 1900, if the property is not purchased by the Government before that date.

Regarding the Indian traders, Mr. S. S. Preston, who has a very good building at Willowsprings, assured me that should the Indian reservation be extended so as to include his location he was willing to relinquish all claim to the land he occupied to the Government free of cost, provided he be allowed to retain his building and be licensed to continue trading with the Indians. The other trader, Mr. C. H. Algert, located at Tuba City, was not at home during my stay there, but I was assured by his clerk and manager, Mr. J. A. McCune, that Algert would relinquish all claim to his location, if desired by the Government, upon the conditions offered by Indian Trader Preston, but that Mr. Algert owned three buildings in Tuba City, apart from his place of business, that he valued at about \$1,500, which he would doubtless expect compensation for.

Herman Lyond, the owner of the claim occupied by the two missionaries hereinbefore referred to, not being at home (believed to be at Phoenix, Ariz.), I was unable to obtain any written agreement for his property, but I was told by several parties that Mr. Lyond would doubtless accept \$1,500 for his possessory right and improvements, which I would regard a reasonable valuation. I have a memorandum of Mr. Lyond's improvements, and should he accept \$1,500 for his claim and Mr. Algert \$1,500 for his three buildings, other than his store, which as I was informed they doubtless will, the improvements of all the white settlers in the territory required for extending the Navajo Reservation can be purchased by the Government at a total of \$48,000, and, as will be seen by the schedules of the 20 Mormon families, there is considerable valuable improvements, including excellent fruit orchards and cultivated lands under irrigation.

Should the reservation be extended so as to include Tuba City, and the claims of the white settlers referred to be purchased by the Government, Tuba City, with its fine orchards and supply of good water, would afford an excellent site for an Indian industrial boarding school, and such a school would be very desirable for the Navajo, Moqui, and Piute Indians of the district. In the erection of such a school at Tuba City there is an abundance of good stone in the near neighborhood for foundations, good clay for brick, which could be made near the building site, limestone within 2 miles of Tuba City from which all lime required could be burned, and the main spring of water which supplies the town is about 80 rods distant and elevated at least 50 feet above the best building site, which would carry water into the upper story of the building, and there is a gradual slope toward the southeast from the building site for the construction of good sewerage.